

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 SAM-01 OMB-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01

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O 310930Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9667

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL NAHA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 1400

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA, TW

SUBJ: SIGNIFICANT MILITARY EXERCISE: DART/CAX IV

REF: STATE 17168

1. EMBOFF INFORMED FONOFF REP OF PLANS TO SEND 125 MEN AND 4 HELICOPTERS OF OKINAWA-BASED 1ST SFG TO PARTICIPATE IN DISASTER RELIEF EXERCISE DART/CAX IV. EMBOFF STRESSED SMALL SCALE OF EXERCISE, HUMANITARIAN CHARACTER AND FACT OF NO US PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT.

2. FONOFF REACTION WAS TO STRESS POLITICAL SENSITIVITY OF THIS KIND OF EXERCISE WITH RESPECT TO JAPAN-PRC RELATIONS AND POTENTIAL FOR MISCHIEVOUS EXPLOITATION BY GRC OR HOSTILE ELEMENTS IN DIET, WHICH WILL BE IN SESSION DURING PERIOD OF EXERCISE. ACCORDINGLY, FONOFF REP INQUIRED IF USG COULD NOT DO SOMETHING MORE THAN MERELY REQUEST QUOTE THAT PARTICULAR GOVERNMENT UNQUOTE (REFERRING TO GRC) TO TREAT EXERCISE IN LOW KEY.

3. EMBASSY CONCURS WITH FONOFF VIEW THAT PARTICIPATION OF OKINAWA-CONFIDENTIAL

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BASED US SPECIAL FORCES TROOPS IN MILITARY EXERCISE ON TAIWAN

HOLDS OUT SUBSTANTIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR GRC OR JAPANESE INTERNAL
OPPOSITION TO EMBARRASS GOJ SERIOUSLY IN PUBLIC FORA OF PRESS
AND DIET IF FACTS BECOME KNOWN. THEREFORE IF OPERATION IS HELD
AS SCHEDULED, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THERE BE AS LITTLE PUBLICITY
AS POSSIBLE RESPECTING US PARTICIPATION AND NO RPT NO PUBLICITY
RESPECTING PARTICIPATION BY OKINAWA-BASED US SPECIAL FORCES.
SHOESMITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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